



## Press Release

### **EU project "STEVE" investigates new e-mobility solutions for eco-friendly urban traffic**

Villach, 15 November 2017 – The European research project "STEVE" (**S**mart-**T**aylored L-category **E**lectric **V**ehicle demonstration in **h**ETerogeneous urban use-cases) under the leadership of Infineon Technologies Austria was launched yesterday with a kick-off meeting in Villach. Over the project term of the next three years, 21 partners from seven countries will explore mobility solutions revolving around light electric vehicles (EL-Vs) and e-bikes for medium-sized cities.

The cities of Villach (Austria), Turin and Venaria (Italy) and Calvià (Spain) are the appointed test regions for the project that has a volume of 9.5 million EUR in total. The findings and results will then be taken up by the EU commission for sustainable urban mobility concepts. Petra Oberrauner, Vice Mayor of the city of Villach and in charge of European cooperation: "As one of the partners of this EU project, Villach once again gives proof of its commitment to becoming a smart city. In our role as test region, we will co-define the future standards for city traffic. The requirements and demands of the citizens of our town who are actively involved in this project and the know-how of local partners will contribute to the research findings. With its input, Villach is again demonstrating its assets as a center of technology."

#### **Sustainable mobility**

More than half of the world's population lives in cities – and this trend is rising. Traffic volume, congestion and difficulty finding a parking space all add up to a significant burden on the environment. Oliver Heinrich, CFO Infineon Technologies Austria AG: "Sustainable mobility is one of the central challenges of our times. With its technologies in fields of energy efficiency, safety and mobility, Infineon Austria supports the further development of light e-vehicles as one means of minimizing urban traffic and its consequences for the environment in a sustainable manner. As the coordinator of numerous EU projects we are going to contribute our expertise in the organization of European research programs to this current project."

#### **Establishing EL-Vs as attractive and sustainable means of transport**

Under the topic "E-Mobility as a Service", the EU research project focuses on electrified L-category vehicles (with two to four wheels) and their integration into

urban traffic. The project benefits everyone: citizens and tourists who use the e-vehicles, plus all the local companies along the entire value generation chain that act as business partners, e.g. for the charging infrastructure or car-sharing models. These vehicles save more space, not only when it comes to parking but also in moving traffic, and also make a major contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> and noise reduction. They are a great alternative to conventional individual passenger cars for easing the traffic situation.

### **People in focus**

In order to make electrified L-category vehicles more attractive and do away with prejudice about safety, convenience or performance, the focus of this project is on identifying the demands and requirements of people. A new, cost-effective generation of EL-Vs will be developed in the STEVE project on the basis of the collected data and a corresponding market launch will be planned. The big objective is to bring about a change in awareness. The intention is to make users consider EL-Vs and e-bikes as viable transport alternatives in the urban environment, by offering state-of-the-art vehicles for testing purposes and ensuring broad availability. The project partner JAC, a company from Turin, develops electrified L-category vehicles that are to be further developed in the course of "STEVE" and produced in series as from 2018. Lou Tik, General Manager JAC Italy Design Center: "JAC will provide 12 electrified L-category vehicles to target users in Villach, Turin and Venaria for test-driving. In a car-sharing scheme, these EL-Vs have the potential to save users' time, cut back energy consumption and reduce the space required for maneuvering and parking. JAC will continue to improve the EL-Vs during the test phase based on the feedback we receive from the users." Villach is also working on an e-bike sharing model.

### **Objectives of STEVE**

STEVE brings together cities, industrial companies, SMEs, and research institutions, to push the integration of this transport solution and demonstrate the benefits of EL-Vs in the urban environment. The project has seven work packages dedicated to the following objectives: A detailed market analysis on EL-Vs based on surveys among consumers and partners along the value chain. Linked to that is the implementation of new services for EL-Vs, such as improved charging infrastructure. The third objective of STEVE is to establish an additional, attractive, long-term mobility solution on a broad basis and to increase its safety standard. This is to be achieved by developing a new, affordable generation of EL-Vs. Another target is increased efficiency in the use of EL-Vs and energy savings of up to 15 percent together with a 25% reduction of average travel time. This goal is to be achieved by optimum speed, taking the route suggested by the vehicle, and taking external conditions such as temperature etc. into account. At the end of the project, the use of EL-Vs in the selected test cities will be analyzed and validated against these objectives.

**STEVE pools the strengths of 21 partners from seven countries**

**Austria:** CISC Semiconductor GmbH, University of Applied Sciences of Carinthia, KELAG-Kärntner Elektrizitäts-Aktiengesellschaft, Infineon Technologies Austria AG, Region Villach Tourismus GmbH, City of Villach, SYCUBE GmbH

**Germany:** Infineon Technologies AG

**Finland:** Teknologian tutkimuskeskus VTT Oy

**Italy:** Ospedale San Raffaele SRL, JAC-Italy Design Center SRL, Ideas & Motion SRL, Politecnico di Torino, City of Turin, City of Venaria, Vem Solutions S.r.l (Viasat Group)

**Slovenia:** Elaphe Propulsion Technologies LTD

**Spain:** Anysolution, Fundacion Tecnalia Research & Innovation, City of Calvià

**United Kingdom:** University of Surrey



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